



Aim High

Never Give Up

Follow Your Dream

Lead By Example

18/05/2020

Dear Parents/Carers

We are writing to keep you up to date with what is happening regarding Norwood School and our reactions to the government guide to opening schools to more children.

We continue to have significant concerns over this guidance and we are working with the Local Authority, who in turn are working with the DfE, to ensure that whatever our provision looks like – it is as safe for our school community as possible.

Staff are working incredibly hard to plan how we achieve the government request to open for Year Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children, however as you will be aware, as a small school our capacity will be limited and there is a general feeling that full social distancing will be impossible.

The team on site are currently laying out classrooms to work out the number of places we have for children.

We still have a few parent/carers in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 who are yet to return their survey – the sooner we have all of these, the sooner we will be able to move further forward with our planning.

Also – should you fall into the Key Worker criteria – a list can be found here - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision> – as your child is priority for a place at school if required, please contact school as soon as you become aware of this requirement.

We will look at the capacity of places we have and offer them in the government required priority order:

1. Key Worker Children and Vulnerable Children
2. Year Reception
3. Year 1
4. Year 6

In these quickly changing times, provision may need to change based on updates of groups that may take priority over your child.

The Key Worker criteria is going to be updated before 01/06/2020 and we expect these number to increase, impacting on changes to any places available other groups of children.

Through discussion with the Local Authority, it is clear that we are working in a way that has to be bespoke for Norwood and it is not a one size fits all – so other schools may have a very different approach.

To ease congestion on school site, we are looking at a part time fee to a child's day – with staggered start and finish times. We will also have to consider children in our current Child Care Setting re-joining their age appropriate provision (where this is available) with the class peers.

Lunch times and playtimes will look very different to normal, as these will be staggered throughout the day. It is still unclear if we are able to offer any catering as this is dependent upon the circumstances of Caterlink.

Children will not necessarily be with the usual adults and may be taught in classrooms or areas that are not their usual classroom, however we expect that the learning in school will mirror what is set for the children learning in the safety of their own home.

If you do have any questions please contact the school office, preferably by email – admin@norwoodschoolco.uk, or by calling 01733 574717.

Please do bear in mind that to honour the entitlement of our adults having a week break, we are working with reduced staff over the next two weeks, so a response may not be given as quickly as usual.

Yours sincerely

Mrs D Reynolds

Head TeacherP

